

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A modular furniture system comprising a plurality of individual furniture elements that are releasably connected together to form an integral furniture assembly, the furniture elements comprising at least one generally horizontal work surface having ends, a front and a back, the system further comprising other furniture elements that are attachable to the ends of the work surface to support the work surface at a desired working elevation above a supporting floor surface, each end of the work surface being supported on one of a free standing cabinet and a floor engaging support panel, the support panel having a predetermined panel thickness, the work surface having a top panel that extends to an outer edge at each end of the work surface, the work surface having a downwardly extending mounting flange on an underside of the work surface adjacent each end, the mounting flange being positioned parallel to the outer edge of the top panel and spaced inwardly therefrom, such that when the support panel is fitted under the top panel and against the mounting flange, the outer edge of the top panel extends over a top edge of the support panel, the support panel being attached to the work surface by releasable fasteners that extend through mating openings in the mounting flange and support panel, the free standing cabinet that is attached to the work surface having a flat end panel, with a top that extends over the end panel to a side edge that is generally flush with an outer surface of the end panel, the cabinet being attachable to the work surface by releasable fasteners that extend through mating openings in the cabinet end panel and the mounting flange on the underside of the work surface, with a spacer extending between the work surface mounting flange and the end panel of an adjacent cabinet so as to maintain the space therebetween.

2. A modular furniture system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the spacer comprises a panel that fits between the mounting flange and the end panel.

3. A modular furniture system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the spacer includes openings therethrough that mate with the openings in the mounting flange, with the releasable fasteners extending through the mating openings in the mounting flange, the spacer, and the end panel.